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of merit regardless of the area of residence.

(2) The Administrator may appoint, without competition, not more than forty (40) qualified citizens who possess qualities deemed to be of special value to the Academy. In making these appointments, the Administrator shall give special consideration to achieving a national demographic balance and to recognizing individuals with qualities deemed to be of special value to the Academy.

[47 FR 21812, May 20, 1982, as amended at 51 FR 17741, May 15, 1986; 60 FR 44438, Aug. 28, 1995]

§ 310.54 General requirements for eligibility.

(a) *Citizenship.* All candidates shall be citizens of the United States except: (1) Nominees from foreign nations; (2) nominees from the Northern Mariana Islands; (3) designees from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and (4) nominees from American Samoa, who may be American nationals. No person who is not a citizen shall be entitled to any office or position in the U.S. merchant marine by reason of his or her graduation from the Academy, until such person shall have become a citizen.

(b) *Age.* On July 1 of the year of admission to the Academy, a candidate shall be not less than seventeen (17) years of age and shall not have passed his or her twenty-fifth (25) birthday.

(c) *Character.* A candidate shall be of good moral character. The Administrator may reject the nomination of any candidate whose character is incompatible with the Academy's standards. No person who has been dismissed or compelled to resign from the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, the Academy or a State maritime academy for improper conduct shall be eligible for appointment as a midshipman at the Academy. No person whose last discharge from any armed force was under conditions other than honorable or who has had a merchant mariner document removed or suspended for cause shall be eligible for appointment as a midshipman.

(d) *Investigation.* To be eligible for appointment, all candidates who are United States citizens shall be completely loyal to the United States and shall meet the requirements established by the Department of the Navy for designation as Midshipman, USNR (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, USNR). Candidates for appointment shall execute documents approved by the Administrator for the purpose of a security and suitability investigation. Appointment as a Midshipman, USNR (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, USNR) shall be a condition of admission for an individual who is a citizen. A candidate who is conditionally appointed to the Academy pending completion of a Navy security and suitability investigation shall be subject to immediate separation should the candidate, as a result of the investigation, fail to meet the requirements established for appointment as Midshipman, USNR.

(e) *Waivers.* There shall be no waivers of general eligibility requirements.

(Sec. 204(b), Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 1114(b)); Pub. L. 97-31 (August 6, 1981); 49 CFR 1.66)

[47 FR 21812, May 20, 1982, as amended at 49 FR 45858, Nov. 21, 1984]

§ 310.55 Scholastic requirements.

(a) *Academic requirements—(1) Credits.* Applicants shall have satisfactorily completed their high school education at an accredited secondary school, or equivalent, and shall present at least 15 units of credit for subjects acceptable to the Academy, comprised of:

(i) 7 required units, as follows:

(A) 3 units of Mathematics (from algebra, geometry and trigonometry);

(B) 3 units of English; and

(C) 1 unit of Physics or Chemistry.

(ii) 8 other units, preferably chosen from the following fields:

(A) Additional mathematics and science;

(B) Foreign language;

(C) Economics; and,

(D) Social science.

(2) *Evidence of academic work.* Before approval of an application, each applicant shall submit evidence showing completion of high school education, or showing that such education will be

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completed no later than June 30 of the year in which admission is sought.

(b) *Scholastic examinations*—(1) *Required entrance examinations*. Applicants shall qualify in either the College Board's Scholastic Aptitude Tests (SAT) or the American College Testing Program (ACT) examinations, administered nationally on scheduled dates at convenient testing centers. A candidate electing to use the College Board shall take both the mathematics and the verbal section of the SAT. A candidate electing to use the ACT, shall take all the tests, namely, English, Mathematics, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences. Minimum qualifying scores on the entrance examinations will be determined by the Superintendent of the Academy for each entering class prior to any offers of appointment for the particular class. Any score below the minimum on any one section of an examination shall make the nominee ineligible for admission. All examination costs shall be borne by the applicant. Nominees shall take all the required examinations by the February testing date in the year for which they seek appointment, unless the Academy's Admissions Office grants special authorization to take later examinations.

(2) *Forwarding test results*. Candidates shall be responsible for requesting the testing services to submit their scores directly to the Academy.

(3) *Test information*. Information on the entrance examinations may be obtained from—

The candidate's high school guidance office;
or,
College Board, P.O. Box 592, Princeton, N.J. 08540; or,
College Board, P.O. Box 1025, Berkeley, CA. 94701; or,
American College Testing Program, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52240.

(c) *Prior Scholastic Record*. Applicants shall demonstrate scholastic achievement by having attained a relatively high standing in relation to their fellow students and by having shown proficiency in mathematics and science courses. With respect to applicants who completed high school at least one year before applying for admission to the Academy, consideration will be given to satisfactory college level study or

any special study undertaken to strengthen their academic backgrounds, particularly in respect to determining whether such supplementary academic activity offsets any deficiency in high school scholastic records.

(d) *Waivers*. No waivers of scholastic requirements will be granted.

§ 310.56 Physical requirements.

(a) *Physical standards*. (1) A candidate shall meet the physical requirements prescribed by the Department of the Navy for appointment as Midshipman, USNR (including the Merchant Marine Reserve, USNR) and the requirements prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard for original licensing as a third mate and third assistant engineer. All candidates shall have color perception and refractive error within the limits prescribed by the Department of the Navy or by the U.S. Coast Guard, whichever are higher.

(2) The requirement to meet these standards is a continuing one and shall apply through graduation from the Academy. Failure to meet the standards while attending the Academy is grounds for, and may lead to disenrollment. Individuals who have completed at least two years of study and, as a result of an accident, illness or other cause (during official duty), fail to meet this requirement may be permitted to remain at the Academy at the discretion of, and under conditions set by, the Administrator. Those individuals permitted to remain through graduation will agree to fulfill aspects of the service obligation which they are capable of, as deemed appropriate by the Administrator.

(b) *Qualifying physical examinations*. All candidates for the Academy shall have a physical and dental examination conducted by a service academy examining facility designated by the Service Academies Central Medical Review Board. The required physical examination shall occur within 1 year preceding the date of admission to the Academy. Although there is no charge for such examination, all expenses (including travel, meals and hotel accommodations) incurred in obtaining such examination shall be borne by the applicant. Candidates may be subject to reexamination upon reporting to the